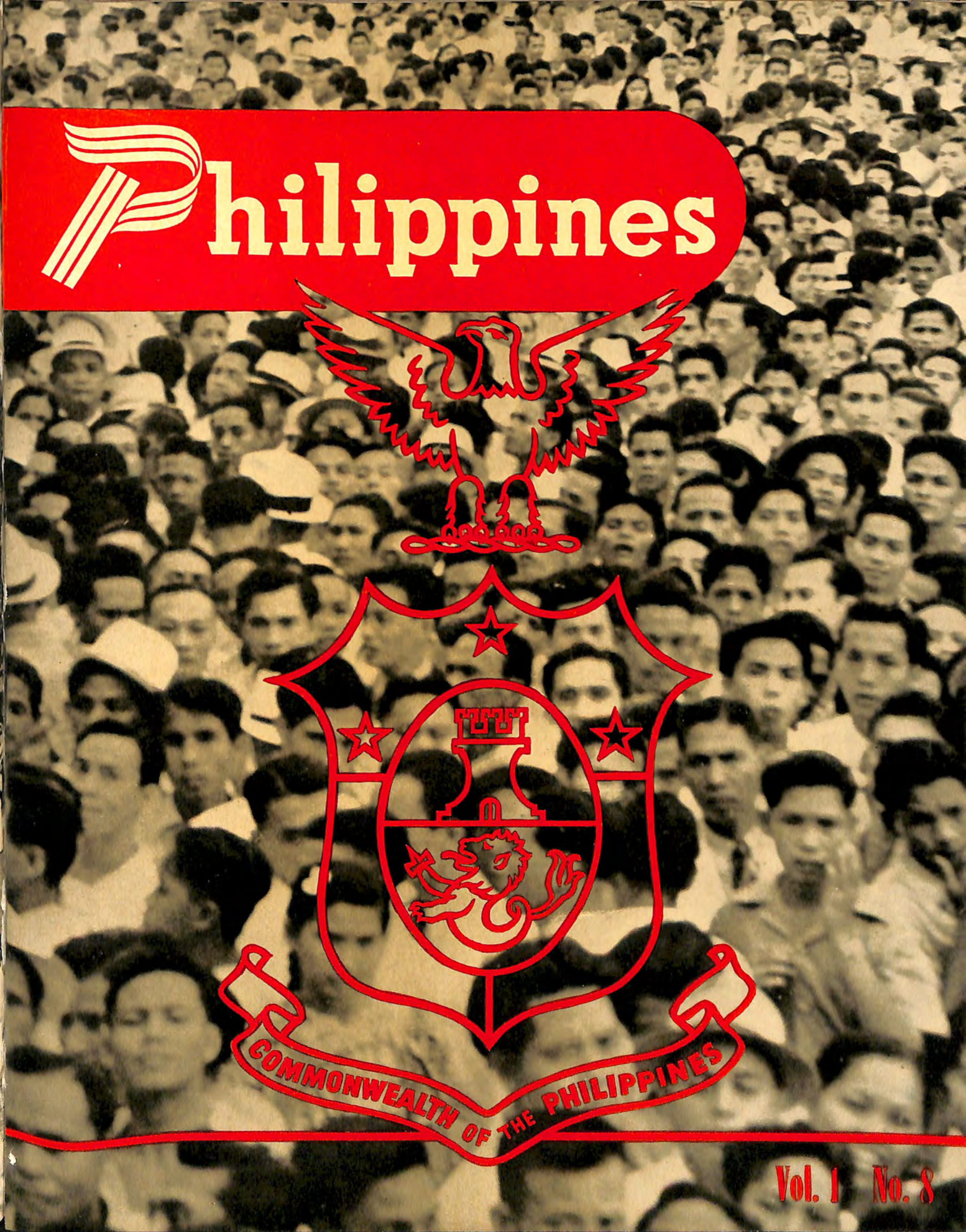
Philippines



Vol. 1 No. 8



NEARLY 400 RESIDENTS of the Tondo district of Manila were transferred to prepared evacuation centers in the suburbs within an hour during a recent practice.



MEMBERS OF THE WOMEN'S AUXILIARY SERVICE in Manila practice caring for a "wounded" Filipino soldier during recent maneuvers.



MANILA FAMILIES participate in a practice evacuation of crowded sections of the Philippine capital. All children were "tagged" by the Red Cross.



PHILIPPINE AND AMERICAN DEFENSE CHIEFS in the Commonwealth were present at the recent launching of the first Island-built motor torpedo-boat. Mrs. Quezon was the sponsor.



PHILIPPINE DAY at the California State Fair was celebrated in Sacramento on September 6th.

Six Years of the Philippine Commonwealth

An Editorial

SIX eventful years have passed since the sweltering day in November, 1935, when the democratic world celebrated the inauguration of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines. Those six years have been full of chaos and disappointment for many nations. They have brought enslavement and death to freedom-loving people in Europe. They have meant hardship and privation to others who have escaped actual invasion. To the Filipinos, those six years have brought confusion as one after another of the foundation stones upon which we hope to build our new nation have been submerged by the tide of war. The prospect is one that might easily generate despair in a less hardy and determined people.

It is significant that we have not despaired. True, the first six years of the Commonwealth have brought us a new understanding of the responsibilities of national identity, and a clearer realization of its dangers, but there has been little inclination to abandon the program. The 16,000,000 Filipinos are as determined as ever to carry through the schedule that was inaugurated with such high hopes and ideals on November 15, 1935.

It is fitting, therefore, that we pause on the sixth anniversary of that history-making occasion and take stock of ourselves. What have we done with the intervening years? Have we made substantial progress as an enlightened people? How are we preparing ourselves for eventual independence and reliance on our own resources?

In the first place, our program of public education has made substantial progress under the Commonwealth. More Filipinos than ever before in history are attending schools—from kindergartens to universities and night classes for adults. Our rate of literacy has been climbing steadily to a point where we are second in the Far East only to Japan. We are building an ever more important body of Filipino literature in English, Spanish and our own native dialects. In the cultural sense, the Philippines is preparing rapidly to accept its national responsibility.

Six years have seen many economic advances, too. Real progress has been made in our program to diversify crops and to make the Commonwealth more nearly self-sufficient in foodstuffs. We are beginning to manufacture textiles and light industrial products. Although the economic consequences of the war have made serious inroads into our commerce, we have made every effort to adapt our business life to the prospect of separation from the protected United States market. Admittedly, we have lost ground in many ways since 1939, thanks to the economic devastation in the wake of the war; nevertheless, we have gained experience and fortitude that will stand us in good stead in later years.

Our progress has not been entirely material. By our often-expressed determination to stand with the United States in whatever course it may take in this world crisis, we have gained immeasurably in the spiritual sense. The decision has given us greater internal strength, as well as winning for the Commonwealth a place among the democratic, freedom-loving people of the world. Far from weakening our position in the Far East, where we occupy a geographical position of some peril, we have won the respect and cooperation of our democratic neighbors. At the same time we have made it clear to any potential aggressor that we will fight for our independence and our free institutions. The Commonwealth is not making the mistake of other small nations who thought that timidity would win immunity from aggression.

Because of the problems we face together and which we are all working to solve, the Filipino people are more united today than ever before. The six years of the Commonwealth have given us new confidence in ourselves. We are better prepared for the job of running our country in the democratic tradition. We see more clearly our national goals and ideals, and are unified in our determination to attain them. Our experience as a Commonwealth has fitted us better for the job of defending democracy in the Pacific.

Under the inspired leadership of President Manuel L. Quezon the Philippine Commonwealth has made substantial progress during six years of increasingly difficult world conditions. Ahead of us we see the warning signs of still more serious troubles. This anniversary of the inauguration of our own government, therefore, should be the occasion for rededicating ourselves to the task that was begun in 1935. We Filipinos—16,000,000 strong—will act upon our determination to find a just, responsible place in the world community. Ever loyal to the United States and the democratic institutions for which it stands, we will press forward to our cherished goal. ★

Philippines

Vol. 1 (November, 1941) No. 8

Outlook on the Pacific, *Dr. Ernest Gruening* 3

American Sovereignty, *John J. Dempsey* 4

The Filipino Fighting Man, *Colonel F. A. Blesse* 6

Advance in Public Health, *Dr. Sixto Y. Orosa* 8

Sergio Osmeña 9

Funds for Defense, *Sebastian Ugarte* 15

Women and the Commonwealth, *Pilar N. Ravelo* 10

$40,000,000 Nugget, *Quirico A. Abadilla* 17

Filipino Footnotes 18

Two Flags 19

The Visayan Islands, *Ernesto Ilustre* 21

Philippine Air Lines 22

Philippine Commerce Charts 23

Critical Awakening, *P. C. Morantte* 24

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Back Cover: Facade of historic Binondo Church, Manila.

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The coat of arms of the Philippine Commonwealth reproduced on the front cover is in honor of the sixth anniversary of the inauguration of the Commonwealth, on November 15, 1935.

In This Issue

DR. ERNEST GRUENING, the Governor of Alaska, was formerly Director of the Division of Territories and Insular Possessions in the Department of the Interior.

• • •

JOHN J. DEMPSEY, Undersecretary of the Interior, is a friend of the Philippines of many years' standing. Formerly a Congressman from New Mexico, he was a member of the Maritime Commission prior to his appointment to the Interior Department.

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SEBASTIAN UGARTE is legal assistant to the Philippine Resident Commissioner in Washington.

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QUIRICO A. ABADILLA is director of the Bureau of Mines in Manila.

• • •

P. C. MORANTTE, a Filipino writer and critic of note, is now in New York completing a book on life in the Philippines. It will be published next year.

• • •

ERNESTO D. ILUSTRE is a member of the press relations staff of the Philippine Resident Commissioner's Office.

• • •

DR. SIXTO Y. OROSA, vice president of the Philippine Medical Association, is a practicing physician in the city of Bacolod, Negros Occidental Province.

• • •

COLONEL F. A. BLESSE, after three years of service with the United States Army in the Philippines, is now attached to the Surgeon General's Headquarters in Washington, D. C.

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OUTLOOK ON THE PACIFIC



By Dr. Ernest H. Gruening
Governor of Alaska

WHEN, in 1513, Balboa stood in awe and wonder on a Panama mountain peak and looked out upon the great Pacific, he had no way of knowing it was the widest ocean upon the earth's surface. Geographers subsequently established that as a fact. But it remained no more than a geographer's fact for centuries.

Not until centuries later did the width of the Pacific, as well as its very existence, begin to play a decisive role in the history of the United States. Today, after 430 years, the Pacific Ocean has been shrunk to channel width by the developments of history.

Today we face the fact that our western rampart is not the breakers that sweep the beaches of California nor even the waters that wash Waikiki. Our frontier in the west reaches to the China Sea, just as in the east it extends to the English Channel. These are facts of both geography and realistic world politics. These facts have been crystallized and brought home to us by the swift pageant of events in Europe and Asia which, we are now being shown, are of an identical pattern.

The Pacific is not narrower today because a potentially hostile power has moved geographically closer to us. Mainly it is so because we now see that against a world system of aggression we cannot wait to defend ourselves at Hawaii, at San Diego, or at any other proximal point. That is exactly what aggressor nations want us to do. They hope to pick the time, the place and the occasion for the attack. We must understand that purpose and prevent its realization. We must not permit either the Atlantic or the Pacific, as broad as they are, to become our Maginot Line.

In the west, we now look out from Alaska, from Hawaii, and from the Philippines upon sea and air lanes that might some day become roads for attack upon us. We have accepted a grave responsibility in undertaking to protect the Western Hemisphere in all of its great expanse. Our charge includes not only the United States, Canada, and Mexico, but also the long coast of South America, from the Panama Canal to Tierra del Fuego—over 100,000 miles of coastline.

It becomes obvious even to the layman that this huge coastline cannot be protected by a line of ships, waiting in territorial waters for an attack. Such a plan of defense is obviously ridiculous. From Hawaii we could not prevent an attack upon the southern coast of South America, for instance, or upon Alaska, or upon the Philippines. Static defense is a demonstrated failure.

Defense of democracy is not a military question, but a human one, and there is only one answer. We cannot afford to permit aggressor nations gradually and progressively to acquire the bases from which to attack us. We must not permit them to take the Philippines, because that would make easier an invasion of the Dutch East Indies, which would facilitate the conquest of Australia, which in turn would give our enemies everything they need to move against South America. The aggressor technique is plain and open to all who will read. The examples of Czechoslovakia, Norway, Holland, Belgium, France, and all the rest are fresh in everybody's mind. In the Pacific, the process has been slower but unmistakable — first Manchuria, then China, Hainan, French Indo-China and Thailand.

The Philippines constitutes a barrier, past which an aggressor must move in any further advance southward

(Turn to Page 19)

"STILL AN INTEGRAL PART of the UNITED STATES"



A Review of American Sovereignty in the Philippines

By John J. Dempsey

Undersecretary of the Interior
of the United States

"WHAT is the status of the Philippines?"

That inquiry is received almost every day in this Department. Recent events have focused attention on the Commonwealth and have made it necessary to give careful consideration to the question. This is because the Islands are becoming increasingly important from a defense standpoint and it is necessary to make sure that our defense efforts there are not hampered by inadvertently wording proclamations and administrative regulations in such a way that they are not effective in the Philippines.

It is a fact that many people in the United States, who remember rather vaguely reading a few years ago about an Independence Act having been passed by Congress, are under the mistaken impression that the United States Government retains little or no control in Philippine affairs. Even well-informed people are often confused on the extent of this control, and it is not surprising that this is true, as even prior to the passage of the Independence Act in 1934 there were many unusual features which might mislead a casual inquirer. The people of the Philippines have always had their own Customs and internal revenue laws, collections being deposited in the Insular Treasury. They have had their own currency and postal systems and our experiments with the 18th Amendment were never extended to the Philippines.

But when it comes to the question of basic sovereignty there has never been any doubt. President Roosevelt's order of July 26 placing the armed forces of the Philippine Commonwealth under the direct command of Lieutenant General Douglas MacArthur was a dramatic demonstration of this fact. It was a forceful reminder to the whole world that American sovereignty over the Islands will continue without modification until the day—July 4, 1946—that the projected Philippine Republic is actually inaugurated.

The President's action was specifically authorized by Section 2(a) (12) of the Tydings-McDuffie Act of 1934, the famous Philippine Independence Act. This legislation, which established the method by which the Filipinos will take over their own government, is the general basis for our present-day legal relations with Manila.

Those of us who have had official dealings with the Philippine Commonwealth and its representative in Congress, the Resident Commissioner of the Philippines to the United States, J. M. Elizalde, are fully aware of the close legal ties between Washington and Manila. These ties are generally well-defined. Many were set down specifically in the Tydings-McDuffie Act; most of the rest have been worked out by trial and error in the past six years.

I might cite a few instances of the power over important Philippine affairs exercised by the United States as evidence of our continued sovereignty. The calling of the Philippine Army into Federal service is only one example. Here are a few more:

All citizens of the Philippines owe allegiance to the United States.

Commonwealth officials, before beginning their duties, must subscribe to an oath recognizing the supreme authority of the United States.

By the terms of the Commonwealth Constitution the United States retains complete control over Philippine foreign affairs, exports, imports and coinage.

The right to expropriate property for public uses, and to maintain military reservations and armed forces in the Islands is expressly given to the United States.

Philippine legislative action must be reported to Congress.

The Supreme Court of the United States has the right to review decisions of Commonwealth Courts.

The President can intervene any time he thinks that the government of the Commonwealth is in danger, that life, property or individual liberty need protection, or that government obligations are not being discharged.

Such facts demonstrate better than anything else that the Commonwealth of the Philippines is by no means a foreign nation.

No less a body than the Supreme Court of the United States has confirmed this relationship in legal terms. In the case of *Cincinnati Soap Company* v. *U. S.* in 1937, Mr. Justice Sutherland, who delivered the opinion of the Court, points out that "*the sovereignty of the United States has not been, and, for a long time, may not be, finally withdrawn. So far as the United States is concerned, the Philippine Islands are not yet foreign territory.*"

Following the organization of the Office of Production Management nearly two years ago, with its first efforts to direct production toward defense needs, considerable uncertainty prevailed regarding the exact responsibility of the Philippines to the United States, and vice versa. The confusion was confounded with the passage of the Export Control Law, which did not mention the Philippines specifically. Should priorities be applied to Insular business? Where should the Islands stand in the granting of preference ratings? Should shipments to Manila be classed as exports or as domestic commerce? Should exports from Manila be controlled or left free?

The solution to these questions was long in coming. Formal extension of the Export Control Law to the Islands was an important step forward. Answers were delayed in certain cases by the fact that many officials had never considered the Philippines seriously before.

Gradually it is being established to the satisfaction of all concerned — and by "all" I include the Filipino people—that while the Independence Act was a preliminary step toward the withdrawal of sovereignty, the Islands are still an integral part of the United States. The defense agencies of our Government in their administrative procedure recognize this fact.

It is only reasonable that this should be so. The Islands are our first line of defense in the Far East. We are pledged to defend them and the Filipino people are disposed to support us in every possible way. We cannot afford to allow red tape to stand in the way of accomplishing our common purpose. On all questions which come up as a result of our defense program, it is the fixed policy of this Department to urge that the Philippines be accorded exactly the same treatment that is given to all other territories under the American Flag. ★

Three definite interpretations of preference rating orders, designed to avoid any misconception of the status of the Philippines, were issued by Donald M. Nelson, Director of Priorities, on November 5. They refer respectively to the needs of industries, utilities and mining companies.

The first two bring the Philippines within the application of Preference Rating Orders P-22 and P-46, relating to priorities on material intended for the repair, maintenance and operation of utilities and industries. The third states that "mines located in the Philippine Islands are 'domestic mines' within the limits of 'the United States, its territories and possessions' as these terms are used" in Preference Rating Order No. P-56.



LIEUTENANT GENERAL DOUGLAS MacARTHUR, Commander of the United States Army Forces in the Far East, with headquarters at Manila, symbolizes America's continued sovereignty in the Philippines. The entire Commonwealth army is now a unit of the United States Forces.



★ ☆ ☆

THE FILIPINO FIGHTING MAN

By Colonel F. A. Blesse

An Appraisal of the Men Charged with Defending the Philippine Commonwealth

FOR more than three years, it was my good fortune to serve the United States Army in the Philippines. My particular duty was the organization and training of a Medical Service for the promising young Philippine Army. That fact gave me an exceptional opportunity to see and appraise the average Filipino soldier, the man who today is an integral part of the United States Army under President Roosevelt's order calling the entire Philippine Army into Federal service. By the time I left those rich islands in the Far East last Spring, I had gained a great admiration for the Filipino as a citizen and as a potential fighting man.

Primarily, my experience taught me that the average Filipino soldier has a high sense of military duty. Once his instructions are clear, he can be depended on to carry them out fully. I found little tendency to be content with half measures. Of course, we had to be careful that our instructions—delivered in English—were understood by the Filipino soldiers, whose knowledge of that language is often sketchy.

Leadership is still something of a problem in the Philippine Army. I believe, however, that this is a temporary condition that time will correct. In this new army, it is necessary to train officers and enlisted men at the same time. Leadership must be developed through experience and thorough training. I have met a number of Filipino graduates of the United States Military Academy at West Point, and many from the old Philippine Constabulary Academy at Baguio, who are now serving with their new army. In general, they are a superior group of officers. They are conscientious and capable and clearly demonstrate that, when properly trained, the Filipino can be developed into excellent officer material. Some of the others who had received their advanced military training in the Islands, either at the Philippine Military Academy or in the universites, also showed splendid possibilities. This is especially true of the Philippine Military Academy, where the curriculum, standards and requirements are closely patterned after the United States Military Academy at West Point.

My experience left with me a great respect for the ingenuity of the average Filipino soldier. Time and again, on arriving at an overnight bivouac, I would assign an orderly to prepare my quarters while I supervised the work around camp. On my return an hour later, it was not unusual to find my quarters completely set up, with a whole array of such minor "conveniences" as clothes hangers, wash stands and even a mat beside my bed, all constructed by hand from material growing around the camp site. There seemed to be no limit to what those men could produce in an emergency.

On one occasion I turned a squad of medical enlisted men loose in a manuever area without special equipment and with instructions to do the best they could for a dozen "wounded" soldiers I had scattered through the field. Each "casualty" bore a tag describing his injuries—this man, a shattered leg; that one, a shrapnel wound in his chest, and so on. The ingenuity that these men showed in caring for the "wounded" was remarkable. Splints, dressings, and bandages of all sorts were quickly fashioned out of sticks, banana leaves, jungle grass, vines and the ordinary soldiers' personal equipment. Within a very short time every one of these "patients" was in a condition to be transported to the nearest hospital.

Part of my tour of duty in the Philippines was spent with the famous Philippine Scouts. As the reader undoubtedly knows, this is a division of Filipino soldiers serving under American officers and has always been an integral part of the United States Army. These men serve enlistment terms of three years, as compared with the five and a half months of training received by "draftees" in the Philippine Army. Partly because of this fact and partly because the Scouts have a tradition

of more than 30 years as compared to about five years for the national army, the Scouts consider themselves to be vastly superior to ordinary soldiers. One result of this is keen competition to fill any vacancy in the ranks of the Scouts that may occur. In the usual Scout unit, it was apparent that the large numbers of applications received for enlistment were frequently disregarded, and, instead, brothers, cousins and nephews—even sons—of the men already in the ranks appeared to take the examinations for enlistment whenever vacancies occurred. Many of the units were proud of the way vacancies were passed from one member of a family to another. As far as I could tell, the efficiency of the Scouts did not suffer in the least from this practice, and the tradition probably improved both discipline and morale. However, a higher educational standard was often available from other sources.

In the medical units the replacement system was, therefore, rearranged to include applicants of higher educational qualities, with all vacancies filled from among the best qualified applicants and in accordance with an arranged priority. Nevertheless, in these units, whenever we had a vacancy the nephew of one of our sergeants would appear at my door, asking to be allowed to take the examination. Each time I refused him because of lack of education, explaining that we were accepting only approved applications filed in the regular way. This applicant refused to be discouraged and appeared routinely as each vacancy occurred. Finally, in desperation, I gave my consent to his taking the regular phyiscal and mental examination for an opening. He passed handily, and became one of the best soldiers I ever encountered.

In the early days of the Philippine Army Medical Corps, our appropriation was not large enough to finance proper medical field training for the young doctors, dentists and veterinarians who had enrolled in the Medical Officers' Reserve Corps. Eventually we obtained facilities for this training by the establishment of the Medical Field Service School. Funds not being available at that time, it was necessary to ask Medical Reserve Officers to take this six weeks' basic course of training without any monetary compensation at all. The response to this normally unattractive offer was surprising. At no time did we have any trouble finding enough qualified men for this course of training. Many of these applicants stayed on with the corps for a full year or more of active service as army doctors. Of course, they benefited by the experience and practice, but it was obvious that this was not the reason for their willingness to be of service. They wished to serve their country and did not hesitate to make personal sacrifice in doing so. Most of the 160,000 trainees who have passed through the Philippine Army since it began to function in 1936 were also impelled by a genuine desire to be of service to their Commonwealth and to the United States. My observation was that their attitude toward compulsory training was, in general, excellent and morale very good.

Perhaps in closing, I should say a few words about the Medical Corps of the Philippine Army, since I was primarily concerned with its organization and development. As is the case in most components of the Commonwealth defense forces, the Medical Corps is patterned after that of the United States Army. In a few respects, however, this was modified to take advantage of Philippine conditions. Each Infantry Division contains a medical battalion—there are no medical regiments. Each infantry regiment contains, as an integral part of its organization, one medical company. Medical detachments are limited to the smaller units. This organization was thoroughly tested during maneuvers with extensive evacuation of simulated casualties. In each case, it accomplished its mission efficiently. In my opinion, its organization is sound and, in any emergency, will properly care for and evacuate its casualties. Its equipment is reduced to the minimum necessary and, wherever possible, this equipment has been produced from Philippine sources. Such articles as splints, litters, wheeled litters, first aid packets, and medical chests are reproduced locally. These not only meet every requirement as to standards, but result in a considerable saving of time and cost.

My three years of contact with the Filipino soldier were happy ones for me. I felt that I was working with an alert and patriotic people who were genuinely interested in national defense. Among them I left many friends and I retain very pleasant memories of their kindness and cooperation. The Chief of Medical Service of the Philippine Army, Colonel Victorio Luna, and his capable assistant, Major Olympia, are maintaining a high standard of efficiency in the Medical Service. They are worthy examples of the highest type of experienced Filipino officers. I left the Islands with the conviction that in the Philippines we Americans are setting up a lasting monument to our democratic way of life. ★



A medical unit demonstrates a Tropical Ambulance during recent field maneuvers

We Advance . . .

IN PUBLIC HEALTH

By Dr. Sixto Y. Orosa

ONE of the things for which Filipinos are most grateful to the United States is for the introduction and development of a real health service in the Philippines. The embers of the Insurrection were scarcely dead in July. 1901, when the United States Government organized a Bureau of Health in the Islands. The function of this body was to stamp out epidemics, reduce infant and adult mortality, improve morale, and generally to promote the health and welfare of the Filipinos. The first Director of Public Health under the military government was L. M. Maus, who continued under the civil government until 1903.

Our public health program received its greatest impetus from Dr. Victor G. Heiser, Director of Health from April, 1905 to February, 1915. During Dr. Heiser's administration, laws were enacted to establish a permanent income for the health service from funds contributed by Insular, provincial and municipal governments. After Dr. Heiser's retirement, Dr. Vicente de Jesus became Director of Health, the first Filipino to hold this position. The present director is capable Dr. Eusebio D. Aguilar, who received his medical education in the United States.

From a small and modest beginning, the Bureau of Health has grown into one of the largest bureaus of the Philippine Commonwealth. Its activities reach every part of the Islands. The number of physicians employed by the Bureau as health officers for the provinces increased from 11 in 1904 to 398 in 1938. The total number of physicians under this Bureau in 1938 totaled 680.

Cholera and smallpox, which during the Spanish regime and in the early years of the American occupation were responsible for a great number of deaths, have been almost entirely eliminated. Bubonic plague, formerly common, has become a medical curiosity.

There are, however, important health problems ahead. The most common diseases in 1938 were malaria, tuberculosis, influenza, diarrhea and enteritis, bronchitis, broncho-pneumonia, lobar pneumonia, dysentery and typhoid fever. But the fight against them is being intensified. For instance, tuberculosis is being brought under control by the work of the Quezon Institute for Tuberculosis, considered the most up-to-date in the Orient, and the mass examination and treatment of tubercular patients by means of four travelling X-ray units. Experiments in malaria control have gained recognition both within the Philippines and outside, and Filipino research in leprosy has received world-wide acclaim.

Among the factors contributing to the progress of our public health program, and which have been given special attention, are the installation of safe water works, the drilling of artesian wells, the sanitary disposal of waste, the operation of public health laboratories in practically every province, extensive immunization work against contagious diseases, a sanitary program for the schools, public health education, food inspection, hospital and dispensary service, care of the insane, the opening of special clinics (maternity, child health, etc.) and the increase of public and general hospitals. Health service is rendered the public schools by Red Cross dentists and nurses; the United States Treasury Department furnishes quarantine service.

The improvement in Philippine health conditions is reflected in Philippine vital statistics. The death rate has decreased—in 1904 it was 18.62 and in 1938, 16.53—while the birthrate has increased—from 27.39 in 1904 to 32.34 in 1938.

From 1930 to 1938 the annual death rate of persons without medical attendance did not change materially, the average yearly rate being about 230,500. The recent organization of charity clinics throughout the country, however, is expected to extend the public health program greatly. The charity clinics are under the direction of young medical graduates and are located in out-of-the-way *barrios* where there are no practicing physicians. This plan not only brings doctors to the small, heretofore neglected towns and villages, but also helps to prevent the overcrowding of the large towns with physicians. The salary is small, but the job is part-time, so that the "country" doctor may devote a good part of his time to private practice. By the end of 1939, 470 such clinics were functioning. In addition, in 1939 public dental clinics were established with an average of three clinics in each province. ★

Sergio OSMEÑA



Vice-President of the Philippines

THE career of Vice President Sergio Osmeña in the service of the Filipino people extends from the day in 1896 when the revolution against Spain interrupted his studies in Manila under the Paulist Fathers. Too young to bear arms, he wrote behind a pseudonym in the liberal paper edited by Romero Salas.

Sergio Osmeña was born 63 years ago in the city of Cebu, of humble parents. He was educated in his early youth in the Seminario de San Carlos in Cebu, later finishing the secondary course in the same institution. During his student days in the province, he was entirely self-supporting, except for occasional help from an uncle. The story is told that young Osmeña, when he came to Manila for his higher education, used to peddle eggs from Cebu in order to earn money for his matriculation.

The lives of President Manuel Quezon and Vice President Osmeña complement each other to a remarkable degree, and it is impossible to dissociate one from the other. In the year 1894, Manuel Quezon and Sergio Osmeña, both 16 years old, were enrolled in the University of Santo Tomás, at Manila. Both took the law course. Poor but brilliant, both were assisted by a grant of free tuition in the University.

In those early years of scholastic companionship there developed between the two a friendship that was deep-seated; they seemed to have a premonition of a common destiny. The law class of 1894 at Santo Tomás University was described by one professor as "the most distinctive and the most rebellious" he had ever known.

Quezon was then and still is the man of action. Osmeña became the calm thinker and planner, the philosopher of political movements which would lead his country toward a greater destiny. Their different natures caused Quezon and Osmeña to become separated when the revolution broke out. Quezon joined the Philippine Revolutionary Army for the fight against, first, the Spaniards, then the Americans. Osmeña became a revolutionary propagandist fighting with his pen for his country's liberty. The two met again eight years later, when peace was restored between the Americans and the Filipinos. Osmeña had become a crusading Manila reporter and political writer.

With peace, neither was satisfied. Quezon, demobilized and penniless, found employment as a clerk in the Monte de Piedad Bank. Osmeña, with Rafael Palma and Jaime C. de Veyra, organized in Cebu a newspaper called *El Nuevo Dia*. But the main ambition of the two young men was to become lawyers, so they prepared themselves accordingly. Soon Osmeña passed the bar examinations, and accepted a post as provincial *fiscal* of Cebu. During this period Osmeña first showed his legal caliber. An American ship-owner of Cebu, who had kept a number of native laundry women isolated, was convicted through his efforts. Punishment of an American malefactor was without precedent in Cebu then. Osmeña next directed the successful prosecution of a United States Army officer who had killed a municipal policeman.

As a reward for his brilliant record as *fiscal*, he was soon elected governor of Cebu Province. As governor, young Osmeña put down the banditry and fanatical uprisings that were scourging the island. On one occasion he went—alone and unarmed—to the mountain hideout of the two bandit leaders, the Quintin brothers, and persuaded them to give themselves up to the authorities. Through this feat, the young governor leaped from comparative obscurity to national prominence.

From Cebu, Osmeña went again to Manila, this time to take a seat in the Philippine Assembly, the newly created legislative body of the Islands. Osmeña was elected Speaker unanimously and retained the chair until 1916.

In 1907 the party in power was the Partido Federal. Osmeña helped organize the Partido Nacionalista as the opposition. In the general elections that year, Osmeña's party swept the country triumphantly.

From 1907 to 1921 Osmeña reigned supreme. But in 1916, Manuel L. Quezon, fresh from his conquests in Washington, D. C., as Resident Commissioner and flushed with justifiable pride at having secured passage of the Jones Law, began to challenge Osmeña's power. Quezon

(*Turn to Page 19*)

Filipino Women and the Commonwealth

By Pilar N. Ravelo

"I PREDICT a great future for Filipino women", Mrs. John Nance Garner, wife of the former Vice President of the United States, told me in an interview six years ago. Mr. Garner was in the Philippines representing the United States Government at the inauguration of the Commonwealth of the Philippines, and Mrs. Garner had accompanied him.

I was reminded of Mrs. Garner's prediction as I began a resume of what Filipino women have done during the six years that the Commonwealth has been functioning. They have advanced in almost every field.

For instance, ministering to the needs of sick animals was once considered a man's job. Today, it is no longer a strange sight to see a woman shoeing a horse or battling with anthrax. Two years ago, the first three women graduates of the college of veterinary science of the University of the Philippines were promptly offered research positions. All rejected the jobs; instead, they preferred active participation in the profession itself.

Our women are becoming air-minded, too. Declaring that they were going to join the Philippine Army air reserve for emergency service, 30 coeds from the University of Santo Tomás recently entered the Flying Club of the Philippines.

"It's all right to serve as nurses, but we'd rather be combat fliers", these courageous girls declared. No one really expects them to participate in any fighting, but the experience of England shows that women fliers can do important work behind the lines.

Philippine opposition to women in medicine is slowly waning. Women physicians have clearly demonstrated their competence. Where we had only a handful of women doctors a decade ago, today about 400 practice in all parts of the Philippines. Women have even been appointed to the Board of Medical and Dental Examiners, positions formerly given only to men practitioners.

The Philippine National Assembly is helping to improve the position of Filipino women by amending many of the obsolete laws unfair to women and children. Last year, for example, the Maternity Law came into effect, providing two-months maternity leaves with pay for women employed by the Government. A subsequent bill, still pending, is designed to extend the benefits of the Maternity Law to women employed by private concerns.

Four years of feminine suffrage has been fruitful. Most of the 500 women who hold elective positions in the Commonwealth have made civic and social welfare work their major concern. Today the Philippines boasts of sanitary markets and slaughter houses, cleaner streets and better parks for children, water systems in almost every town, more adult education, and more hospitals and health centers. Even unemployment has diminished because of a housewives' campaign to give every possible employable man or woman a job.

The new emphasis on defense has not escaped the attention of Filipino women. Women, individually and in their many clubs and organizations, are zealously and effectively working on Red Cross projects, food conservation, nursing and allied services for the nation.

Mrs. Francis Sayre, wife of the United States High Commissioner to the Philippines, and Mrs. Manuel Quezon, our First Lady, are co-chairmen of the Red Cross Volunteer groups. In Manila, the stately ballroom of the High Commissioner's residence has been converted into a sewing hall. Three days a week women gather there to prepare bandages for soldiers, to sew for evacuees and indigent families, and to perform other useful tasks. This same work is done by members of the different clubs. The National Federation of Women's Clubs, with its 900 affiliated groups throughout the country, the National League of Women Voters, the Young Women's Christian Association, the Girl Scouts of the Philippines, as well as the coeds in public and private schools and universities, are all participating in this important work.

In line with the food plans announced by the Civilian Emergency Adminstration, Filipino women now cultivate home vegetable gardens. Fruits and vegetables are preserved on an ever-larger scale, too. Furthermore, the Division of Plant Utilization of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce is urging women to exploit such plentiful Philippine products as the coconut and *cassava*, upon which they may fall back in the event of a food shortage.

Preparations are being made to take over men's jobs. Women are now learning to drive cars and ride bicycles; to plant crops and harvest them; to make ordinary household repairs, and to perform clerical work in provincial and municipal offices. Simultaneously, our women are studying nursing and allied services. First-aid classes under competent doctors and health officers are now being conducted in every town in the Philippines. ★

MEN OF THE COMMONWEALTH
(opposite page)

UPPER RIGHT: Jose Yulo, Vice President Sergio Osmena, Quintin Paredes and Maximo Noel.

ASSEMBLY: Jose Yulo addressing Nacionalista Party convention.

LOWER CENTER: President Quezon signs State papers, surrounded by Jorge Vargas, Jose Yulo, Benigno Aquino, Manuel Roxas, Enrique Magalona and Vincente Singson Encarnacion.

BORDER PORTRAITS (downward from left): Teofilo Sison, Rafael Alunan, General Paulino Santos, Manuel Roxas, Quintin Paredes, Benigno Aquino, Jorge Vargas, Ramon Avancena, Chief Justice Jose Abad Santos.

1935 Commonwealth of the Philippines 1941

The Men of the Government



Nov. 15, 1935 Manuel L. Quezon Takes Oath of Office as the first Philippine President.















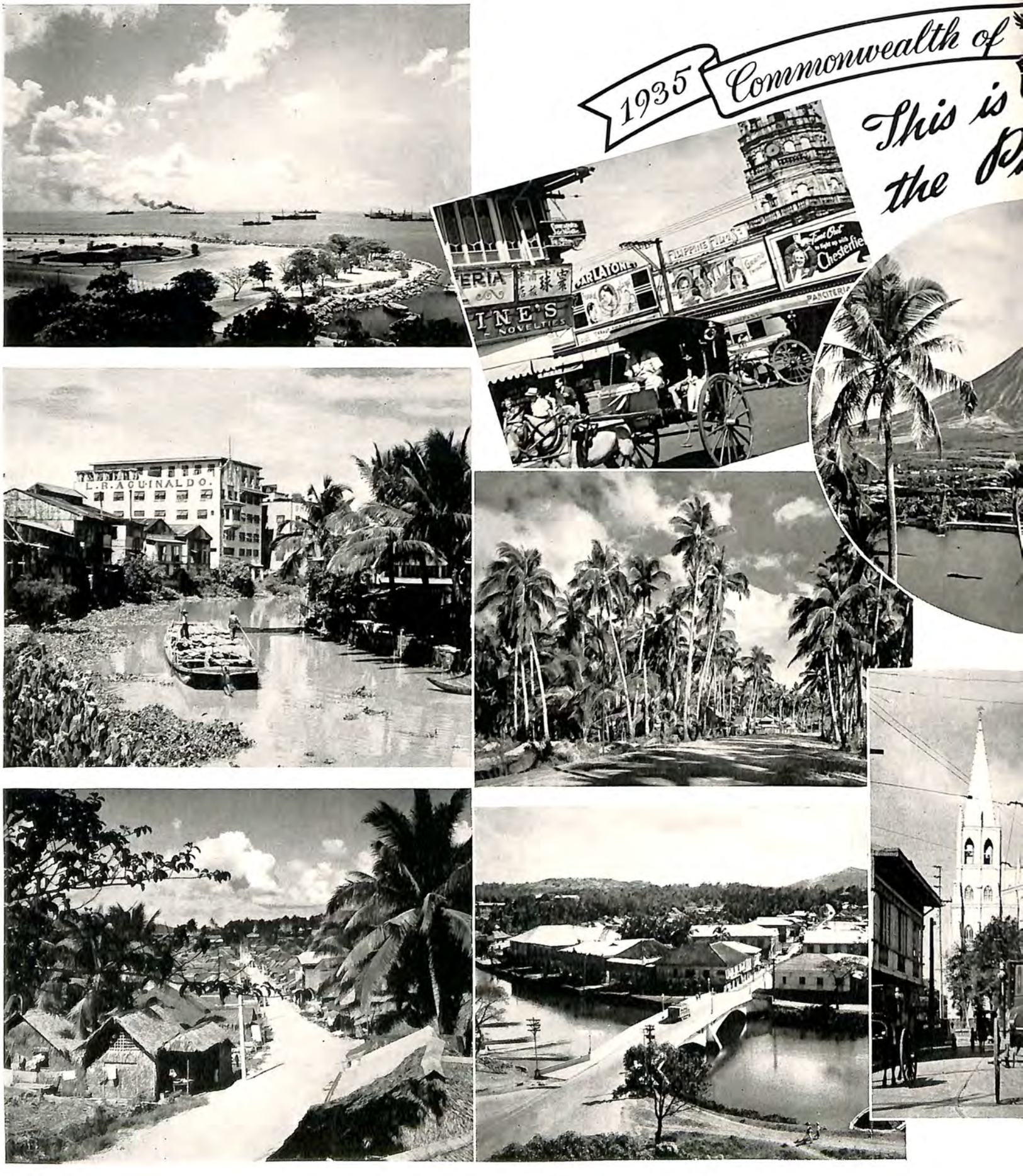











1935 Commonwealth of
This is
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Chesterfield
L. R. AGUINALDO.

the Philippines 1941

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1935 Commonwealth of the Philippines 1941

These are the People















FUNDS for PHILIPPINE DEFENSES . . .

By Sebastian Ugarte

FUNDS for financing Philippine defense efforts are involved in a bill now pending before the House of Representatives. Worked out by the Commonwealth Government and the War Department in Washington, this legislation is being pushed by American defense experts and by President Quezon.

The object of H.R. 5825 is to make available from two specified funds money for the defense of the territories and people of the Philippines. The legislation in one part takes the form of an amendment to the Philippine Independence Act.

What particular funds are involved?

There are two sums—the Sugar Excise Tax Fund and the so-called Gold Devaluation Profit Fund. Together, they amount to some $53,000,000. Previous Congresses have authorized the establishment of these funds, but no move has ever been made actually to appropriate the money.

The Sugar Excise Tax Fund began to accumulate in 1937, when the Sugar Act authorized the Federal Government to collect half a cent a pound on sugar produced from Philippine cane and marketed in the United States, and to transfer the proceeds to the Commonwealth. The Independence Act specifically provides that this money can be used only "for the purpose of adjusting Philippine economy to a position independent of trade preferences in the United States and in preparing the Philippines for the assumption of the responsibilities of an independent State." The proposed legislation would permit the use of these funds for defense purposes.

According to the Sugar Act, these collections will continue until June 30, 1942. During the period from November 1, 1937, when the Act went into effect, to December 31, 1941, approximately $35,000,000 in sugar excise taxes will have been collected. Between the latter date and June 30, 1942, an additional $4,000,000 will probably accumulate. The original bill submitted to Congress by Secretary of War Stimson made all sugar excise tax collections available for defense. H.R. 5825 limits appropriations to the money received prior to the enactment of the law.

In addition to the sugar excise tax money, the so-called Gold Devaluation Profit Fund is made available for defenses under the pending legislation. Congress in 1934 passed a law authorizing and directing the establishment on the books of the United States Treasury, "when the funds therefore are made available", of a $23,862,750.78 credit in favor of the Philippine Treasury. It represented the increase in value of the gold deposits of the Philippine Government in United States banks when the weight of the gold dollar was reduced. Although authorized, none of this money has been actually appropriated; nevertheless, several efforts to repeal the Act of 1934 have been blocked by Congress.

The history of this pending legislation extends over approximately a year, but its basis is in the program of military training that the Philippine Commonwealth has pursued since the day of its inauguration. This program costs approximately $8,000,000 a year. When, in the summer of 1940, it became apparent that the Islands were facing with the United States an emergency of far greater proportions than had been generally anticipated, efforts were made to find additional funds to speed up this training program and to pay for material of all sorts. The $53,000,000 in the Sugar Excise Tax Fund and the Gold Devaluation Fund was the only money available. Early this year, therefore, President Manuel L. Quezon, in his annual message to the Philippine Assembly, declared, "I have made representations to the Washington authorities requesting that [these] funds . . . be appropriated to be spent exclusively for our national defense under the direction of the United States. I have assurances that this matter is being given serious consideration."

During July, 1941, the situation in the Pacific became so tense that President Roosevelt decided to use his authority under the Independence Act to call the Philippine Army into the service of the United States. Subsequently, the Commonwealth questioned the use of this money to pay for the maintenance of its forces called into the service of the United States. Upon receiving assurances that the War Department proposed to use the entire $53,000,000 for military works of a permanent nature—air fields, strategic roads and bridges, naval defense installations and strategic material reserves—the objection was dropped.

The Commonwealth Government's approval of H.R. 5825 has been based on its realization of three factors: that all other considerations must be subordinated to the immediate need for adequate defense; that our financial resources are unequal to the extraordinary expenses which the present emergency demands, and these funds are the only ones available to us at the moment; that most of the proposed expenditures would be for permanent and semi-permanent improvements, and that these will redound to the long-term benefit of the Philippines. ★



Surface workings of a Philippine lode mine in Mindanao.



Pouring molten gold into ingot molds at Baguio.







Above: Igorot miners operate drills in a northern Luzon gold mine.

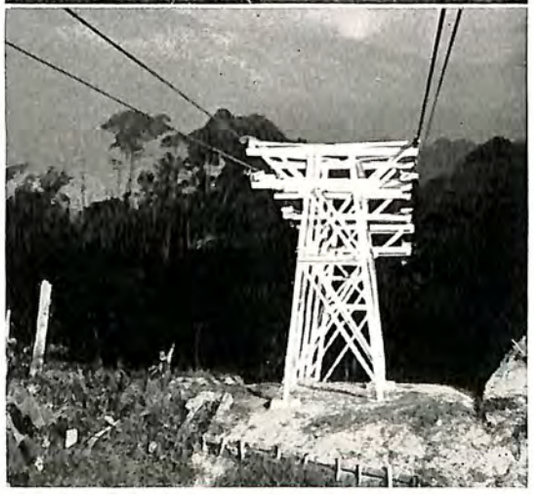
Left: Modern equipment transports gold ore to the surface.

Right: Miners' homes in the Paracale district of southern Luzon.

Lower left: Gold bricks are weighed before shipment to Manila.

Lower right: The longest aerial tramway in the Orient connects the Davao Gold Mines with tidewater.







. . . the Output of Philippine Gold Mines Every Year

By Quirico A. Abadilla

SUPPOSE, in the spring of 1931, you had asked a competent mining engineer about the mineral resources of the Philippine Archipelago. He would have given you a pretty gloomy report.

"Well," he would probably have drawled, obviously trying to make the best of a poor subject, "I hear they have some gold and a few base metals like iron and copper. But—so far as I know—nobody's made enough money out of any of them yet to buy a new hat."

It was thought, ten years ago, that the Philippines had been pretty well prospected. Some important American mining interests had sent scouts to the islands. No one seemed to have found anything worth a heavy investment. Mining was not an important Philippine industry in 1931, however you looked at it.

True, geologists could point to the Surigao iron deposits as one of the most interesting in the world, but no blast furnace was buying that type of ore. Manganese had been found at several points, but there were no mines. The same was true of chrome. One deposit had been found in Zambales Province, north of Manila, and in the first flush of enthusiasm over the discovery, the area was set aside as a special government reserve. Disillusioned at the low grade of the ore, however, officials released the deposit in 1931 and for three years no one even bothered to stake a claim on the property. It is typical of the new position of mining in the Philippines today that the Zambales chromite deposit is now known to be one of the largest and most valuable in the world.

At the beginning of 1930, the Philippines boasted of six gold mines, three of which had at one time or another paid dividends. The outlook was so gloomy that the Benguet Company began to liquidate its assets until only five cents a share remained unpaid. Citizens of Manila still talk about the days when a handful of gold mining stock bought a good cup of coffee along the Escolta!

Ask the same mining man today what he thinks of Philippine mineral prospects and he will literally burst into song.

"Do you realize," he demands, grabbing you by the lapel, "that in 1940 we dug $38,000,000 worth of gold out of the Philippine hills, that mining is threatening sugar as the pillar of our economy, and that the Commonwealth is the sixth most important gold-producing country in the world? Did you know, sir, that, under our American flag, only California digs more gold than we do? Alaska? We've been ahead of that cold storage plant ever since 1936."

You are justified in asking what caused this change from poverty to riches. Devaluation of the dollar was undoubtedly a factor, although production began to increase several years before the gold price was raised. The release of local investment funds due to the contraction of the sugar industry was also important, but again this followed and accentuated a movement already under way. As profits began to be reported and the probability of securing profits from other properties increased, money was attracted. For a time there was a roaring local stock market which, as is usual in new gold mining regions, led to unhealthy speculation and finally to deflation, all without any marked influence on the steady increase in output. By the time the speculative fever passed, gold mining was well established in the Philippines, although several newly formed and incompletely financed companies had difficulty continuing operation. It is worth noting, in passing, that the new industry was almost entirely financed by local Philippine and American capital. In contrast to most gold mining booms, little money came from outside. London invested a small amount and individuals in the United States have bought some shares, but no big foreign mining house has established itself in the Islands and no mines are owned abroad. To a large extent the mines have supplied their own capital.

The increase in the price of gold was probably the most influential factor in the rapid increase in gold production, but the adoption of advanced technique also played an important part. The so-called Butte system, calling for a daily mapping of working faces, for instance, quickly piled up geological data and provided a solid foundation for ore reserve estimates, previously lacking. This in turn permitted safe investment in underground development and surface plant which lowered costs, increased profits, and led to more prospecting,

$40,000,000 Nugget **(from page 17)**

starting an upward spiral in mining operation.

There were other contributory factors. Mining became active in the Philippines when the industry was generally depressed elsewhere in the world. As a result, abundant technical talent was available for even such minor positions as shift boss. Contrary, too, to earlier expectations, Filipino labor proved well adapted to mining. Patient and intelligent supervision built up a satisfactory working force much more rapidly than had been anticipated.

As a result of all this expansion, 23 mining and mine management companies paid dividends aggregating $11,545,797 in 1938. Three paid more than $1,000,000 each and one distributed $5,100,000. The bulk of the profit was from the Baguio district, but Paracale, Masbate and Surigao also surged forward, and other minor districts were represented among the dividend payers.

Philippine gold mines are generally shallow, and as a rule little mining has been done below 1,000 feet. There are exceptions, however. One is in Balatoc, where mining has continued to 2,000 feet, with workings planned below that level. The bulk of the gold so far mined has come from the type of deposit known to the geologist as "epithermal," characterized by richness rather than depth. However, this type has yielded some of the great bonanzas, such as that at Goldfield in Nevada.

In the Philippines, tonnage yielding a half ounce or more of gold is mined as well as some work ore containing two and three ounces. The veins extend exceptional distances horizontally, the Balatoc-Itogon exceeding 12,000 feet. Individual stoping lengths are shorter but recurrent, and individual ore shoots are mined for as much as 1,600 feet along the strike. Ordinary stoping widths range from five to 20 feet, but widths up to 80 feet are found.

One large low-grade mine, Masbate Consolidated, is in operation treating 4,000 tons a day with plans to increase to 5,000. Four placer mines are operated, the largest being the Coco Grove at Paracale on the Pacific shore of Luzon. Coco Grove's two modern dredges during 1939 handled 3,793,291 cubic yards with an average value of 26 cents. There is one small smelter in the Paracale district for treating concentrates and the Lepanto Consolidated Mining Company is operating another for making copper matte at its property in Northern Luzon.

Largely under its own steam, the Philippines has thus forged ahead among gold producing countries until today it holds a position of great importance. The change in the past decade has done more than bring prosperity to a few mining promoters. Last year, 40,000 laborers were employed at wages considerably above the average for the Commonwealth. The government received approximately $3,750,000 from the industry. With the advent of independence in 1946, our new nation will have a sounder financial basis because of its great expansion in mining—this despite the gloomy outlook in 1931. ★

Filipino Footnotes

THE first popularly accepted description of the Filipinos by a "foreigner" was written in 1250 by a Chinese geographer named Chao Ju-kuo. However, the Oriental Library at Tokyo has found that a Chinese, Ma Tuan-Lin, wrote about "the country of Mait [now known as Mindoro], some people of which came to the coast of Kuan-Chou [Canton] with goods and treasures on board, in the 7th year of T'ai-p'ing-hsing-kuo [A.D. 982]."

• • •

OFFICIAL reports of the Philippine Labor Department estimate that approximately 4,037,000 persons are actively employed in the Commonwealth. In the face of our country's present population of some 16,000,000, that indicates that 11,963,000 Filipinos are living off their relatives. At least, we have no bread lines.

• • •

OUR forefathers used to employ the John Alden method of proposing marriage. The best friend of the prospective groom was sent to the girl's house to make the proposal. Carrying a spear which he thrust through the ladder at the girl's house, the "best man" offered her a dowry as well as promises, and explained his mission not only to the girl but also to her father. If her father accepted, a wedding day was set. An old woman administered the marital oath. At the wedding feast, relatives of the bride were guests, whereas those of the bridegroom acted as hosts and hostesses. In entering her new house, the girl was carried on the shoulders of the men (not the bridegroom). Inside, she was waited upon by the bridegroom's father and close relatives. Not until she had been offered a present by the bridegroom's father, would she sit or eat or enter her nuptial bed.

• • •

UNLIKE the system in America, Philippine traffic follows the Continental pattern. Since vehicles move on the left side of the road, the steering wheels of Philippine autos are on the right side. Gears are shifted with the left hand. But Filipino pedestrians are as individualistic as New York's "stupidestrians."

• • •

THERE are a number of theories about the origin of the 80 catalogued Filipino languages and dialects. Some trace our tongue back to Sanskrit, others to Malayan. For what it may be worth, we offer to researchers the following words which share a certain commonness with Hindu-Malayan-Aryan-Indian-pure Sanskrit-Chinese-Polynesian: *hukum* (judgment or decision); *champaka* (a kind of flower); *pwasa* (fast); *tao* (man or figure of being); *nana* or *nanay* (mother); *ulan* or *uran* (rain); *saksi* (witness); *hari* or *jajji* (head or chief).

TWO FLAGS

WHENEVER the flag of the Philippine Commmonwealth is unfurled in the Far Eastern winds, the Stars and Stripes, representing the United States, which still exercises sovereignty over the Islands, flies above it. But, although it enjoys no independent life yet, the Philippine flag is of near half a century standing.



The Philippine flag assumed its present form (except for minor modifications) early in 1898, when it was designed and adopted by the *Junta Patriotica*, a council of exiled Filipino leaders in Hongkong. After the Battle of Manila Bay, General Emilio Aguinaldo, leader of the Filipino Army, returned to Manila. On June 12, 1898, the flag which he had brought with him was unfurled over the Philippines.

During the first years of the American occupation of the Philippines, displaying of the Filipino flag aroused so much excitement that, in 1907, the Philippine Commission was forced to pass a Flag Law which forbade its display even in native homes. From 1908 to 1919 there was great agitation for the repeal of the Flag Act. Victory came when a bill of repeal was signed by Governor General Francis Harrison on October 22, 1919. This date, in effect, marked the recognition of Filipino nationality.

The colors and designs of the Philippine flag are symbolic. The red, white and blue, which are predominant, were adopted in honor of the United States. The three stars represent the union of Luzon, the Visayas and Mindanao, the three major regions of the Philippines; the eight rays of the golden sun stand for the provinces of Manila, Bulacan, Morong (Rizal), Laguna, Pampanga, Neuva Ecija, Batangas and Cavite—where the first battles against Spain took place. ★

Outlook on Pacific **(from Page 3)**

and eastward. Despite the technical difficulties of defending the Philippines—and they are being repaired—it is essential that the Islands be defended. We cannot yield the Philippines to an aggressor without giving him an added weapon against ourselves. That is imperative today. There will be time when peace is reestablished to return our minds to purely political objectives.

President Manuel Quezon and the Filipino leaders well recognize the real factors of the situation. They know their interests today are identical with our interests. They cannot look forward to real independence in a world where small nations exist only at the temporary pleasure of aggressive, greedy neighbors. The Filipinos have reiterated their loyalty to the American flag, which is proof to Axis nations that the perils of democratic life are preferable—to one people, at least—to being under totalitarian "protection."

In Alaska, a growing military development has made it possible for this Territory to play its proper role in the defense of the Pacific. Today there is general realization that the United States must be defended from Alaska, from Hawaii, and from wherever else is necessary. Alaskan residents, who include a considerable number of Filipinos, will do their part in whatever dangers may come as a result of our enlarged role in national defense. People of every locality, territory, or nation must realize at last that the defense of one is the defense of all. ★

Sergio Osmeña **(from page 9)**

organized the Collectivist Party, which, after five years of rivalry, won the election of 1922.

Despite this apparent opposition, however, the Quezon-Osmeña alliance continued until 1932, when it split on the bitter controversy over the merits of the Hare-Hawes-Cutting law. This was the first Philippine Independence Act, which passed the House of Representatives in 1932.

Osmeña supported the measure; Quezon fought it. Osmeña broke away from the Nacionalista Consolidado Party, of which Quezon was boss. The strife lasted three years. During that period the Hare-Hawes-Cutting Law was rejected by the Filipinos. But, after all, the two differed only on methods, not on fundamental principles. A new coalition was proposed. They got together again and have worked harmoniously for the good of the nation ever since.

When the first Commonwealth elections were held in 1935, Manuel Quezon was chosen President and Sergio Osmeña, Vice President. They are running for reelection in the national polling November 11.

For more than five years now Osmeña has discharged the duties of his office with distinction. He has always been a valuable adviser to the President, an active collaborator in the successful prosecution of governmental affairs. He embodies the ideas of a great statesman, and is reluctant to jump at quick conclusions without careful deliberation. ★


OIL DRILLING
MINDORO
MARINDUQUE
Mt. Mayon
PERFECT CONE
CAGRARAY
BATAN
Legaspi
NAMED AFTER SPANISH CONQUEROR OF PHILIPPINES
HEMP
BANTON
SIMARA
BURIAS
San Jose
FIRST MODERN SUGAR CENTRAL 1910
ILIN
San Bernardino Strait
SHORTEST ROUTE MANILA TO THE U.S.
ROMBLON
MARBLE
TICAO
BUSUANGA
TABLAS
SEMIRARA
SIBUYAN
Masbate
SAMAR
LAST STAND OF THE INSURRECTOS
MASBATE
CATTLE RANCHES & GOLD
PANAY
Capiz
SUGAR
CHOICE FISHING
BILIRAN
Catbalogan
HEMP
CUYO
BANTAYAN
HEMP
Tacloban
Iloilo
GUIMARAS
Bacolod
SUGAR PORT
CEBU
LEYTE
CAMOTES
NEGROS
BEST SUGAR LAND
MACTAN I.
MAGELLAN SLAIN HERE 1521
Cebu
SHIPPING CENTRE – FOUNDED 1565
HOMONHON
DINAGAT
Visayan Islands
BOHOL
PANAON
SIQUIJOR
SIARGAO

VISAYAN ISLANDS . . . SUGAR BOWL OF THE PHILIPPINES



By Ernesto D. Ilustre

WHEN, on March 16, 1521, Ferdinand Magellan, after crossing the broad Pacific Ocean from South America, first sighted the little islet of Homonhon at the southeastern tip of Samar in the center of the Philippine cluster of islands, he thought that he was at the end of his long voyage to discover the wealth of the Indies. Unfortunately, Magellan did not live to enjoy the rewards of his courage and daring. Nor did he ever know that the lands he discovered were not part of the fabulous Spice Islands. A little over a month after he brought his galleons into the harbor of present-day Cebu, Magellan lost his life in a battle with the natives of Mactan Island, just a few miles away. A monument today marks the spot where the first man to cross the Pacific died.

Historians and economists who enjoy analyzing the "ifs" of history feel that, had Magellan lived and known that the islands he discovered were not part of the Indies, he would have been just as glad. For these islands, part of what we now call the Visayan group, were already noted, as they are now, for the fertility of their soil and the industry of their people. For the next three centuries they contributed not a little to Spain's profiable Acapulco galleon trade that shuttled yearly between the Philippines and the western coast of Mexico.

Today the Visayan group, with a total land area almost six times greater than the whole Territory of Hawaii, is not only the most densely populated section of the Commonwealth, but also is so fertile that it is often called the "granary of the Philippines." From its well-cultivated farms come corn, tobacco, abaca (hemp), rice, peanuts, bananas, mangoes and pineapples. Even more important, more than 75 per cent of Philippine sugar exports during many years of the past two decades has originated in the Visayas. This, despite the fact that actually only a small percentage of the land is tilled. In many places, particularly in Samar and Leyte, three-quarters of the land is covered with virgin forest and dense jungle.

Samar—the fourth largest island in the Archipelago—has the distinction of being the first of the 7,063 Philippine Islands on which the Spaniards set foot. Its rugged landscape, dominated by wild forest-clad mountains, gives Samar a forbidding character. Samar is still largely under-developed, except in the immediate vicinity of the towns that fringe its coasts.

Nearby Leyte, one of the largest and most fertile in the Visayan group, is a hemp and coconut center. It also abounds with mineral deposits. Coal, asphalt, oil, gold, iron and sulphur are also found.

Prosperous Cebu Island is one of the most important hemp centers in the Philippines. Cebuanos—noted for their industry and thrift—grow extensively such tropical commodities as coconuts, sugar cane, hemp, bananas, pineapples, mangoes, tobacco and corn. The capital of the province, Cebu City, is the metropolis of the Visayan Islands and the oldest European city in the Philippines. Here Magellan made his first converts to Christianity. The harbor, an important center of inter-island and export trade, is protected from storms by the island of Mactan.

Iloilo City, in the island of Panay, ranks next to Manila as a port of entry for foreign commerce. Located at the mouth of the Iloilo River, it is famous for its pineapple-fiber cloth, pottery, shell articles, cutlery and cigars.

The island of Negros is the sugar-bowl of the Philippines. Its two provinces, Negros Occidental and Negros Oriental, produce over 75 per cent of the sugar exported annually by the Philippines to the United States. The capital of Negros Occidental, Bacolod, is a miniature American city with neatly laid-out and paved streets, stately buildings and modern governmental offices. Dumaguete, the capital of Negros Oriental, is the seat of Silliman University, founded in 1901 with a gift from Dr. Horace B. Silliman of New York. The famous school, alma mater of many present-day Filipino leaders, is maintained by the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions.

Masbate Island boasts of a rich gold mine, the only open-cut gold deposit in the Philippines. The Arroroy district, in northwestern Masbate, contains one of the largest gold ore reserves in the Commonwealth. Cattle ranching is also carried on here on an extensive scale. ★

The map of the Visayan Islands on page 20, a companion to the section published in Vol. 1, No. 7, was drawn specially for PHILIPPINES by Frank Manning. Mindanao will be pictured later.

Trails in The South Pacific Sky

Philippine Air Lines Reports on Its First Six Months

AERIAL transportation in the Philippines made an important advance in February, 1941 when a group of Manila businessmen decided to create Philippine Air Lines, Inc., a corporation to develop passenger, mail and express package transportation throughout the Commonwealth. Operations were inaugurated on March 15 and have continued without interruption since then.



A six-times-a-week run from Manila to Baguio, the Philippines' famous mountain resort and one of the most important gold mining centers in the Islands, and a three-runs-a-week service to the towns of Paracale, Naga and Legaspi in Southern Luzon were the first to be undertaken. Thus, Manila was linked more closely to two important mining districts and to two of the most progressive provinces in the country.

Philippine Air Lines services were popular from the start, due to the saving of time involved. Ordinarily, the trip to Baguio by railroad and bus requires eight hours; the P.A.L. ships cover the distance in 45 minutes. The journey to Paracale and Legaspi takes almost a full day by railroad; with P.A.L. service, Paracale is only 45 minutes from Manila, and Legaspi is 90.

The success of the two first schedules induced P.A.L. to increase its fleet. Within a month of the inauguration of service, a new plane was received from the United States. P.A.L. is now planning additional routes to the sugar districts, to the tobacco provinces and to Moroland. More planes have been ordered and will be put in operation as soon as they are delivered, the necessary government permits having been obtained already.

The P.A.L. lines in operation at present, besides serving the resort city of Baguio, Paracale, reborn during the gold mining boom, and Legaspi, at the base of beautiful Mt. Mayon, also reach Cebu, the oldest town in the Philippines, founded by Magellan, Masbate, in a very rich mining district, and Tacloban, an important market for copra. The lines in preparation will link Manila with Delmonte and its rich pineapple plantations, Davao, the hemp capital, and fertile Cotabato, all in the rich island of Mindanao. Soon, thanks to P.A.L., all these towns—scattered among the 7,000 islands of the Philippine Archipelago—will be on the outskirts of Manila.

A resume of the activities of P.A.L. in its first six months of operation shows the great improvement its services means to passenger, mail and express transportation in the Philippines. The statistics show that P.A.L. planes made 411 trips during those six months, carrying 2,295 passengers to all parts of the Philippines, and covering 127,448 miles in 394 flying hours. The Manila-Baguio route was first with 1,129 passengers and 211 trips. Miles covered totaled 53,436, and hours flown, 194. The others showed:

Manila-Paracale-Legaspi route: passengers, 907; trips, 141; mileage, 49,242; hours flown, 317.

Manila-Cebu route (20 days of operation): passengers, 140; trips, 17; mileage, 7,524; hours flown, 47.

Chartered trips: passengers, 119; trips, 42; mileage, 15,924; hours flown, 104.

Most of these chartered trips were to meet emergencies. In some cases doctors, special serums and medical supplies were flown to distant mining camps or cities. On others, injured workmen or sick persons were carried to Manila for hospitalization. Maritime accidents were also attended to. P.A.L. planes were used to spot the exact position of grounded ships or to carry specialists and crews in salvage operations.

The Philippine Air Lines operates with twin-motored Beechcraft planes, manned by experienced pilots and co-pilots, who are in constant contact with their base through two-way radio. Pilots are former members of the United States Army and Navy Air Corps and the Philippine Army Air Corps. P. I. Gunn, a veteran of naval and commercial aviation, is chief pilot and operations manager. He is assisted by H. O. Lott, formerly chief pilot for Western Air Express Co., Colonel Arnaiz, hero of the Manila-Madrid flight, and Lieutenants Ramos and Tirona, outstanding officers of the Philippine Army Air Corps.

Philippine Air Lines rates compare closely with charges made by American airplane companies. The 45-minute flight from Manila to Baguio, for instance, costs $12.50; a ticket from Manila to Cebu costs $35.

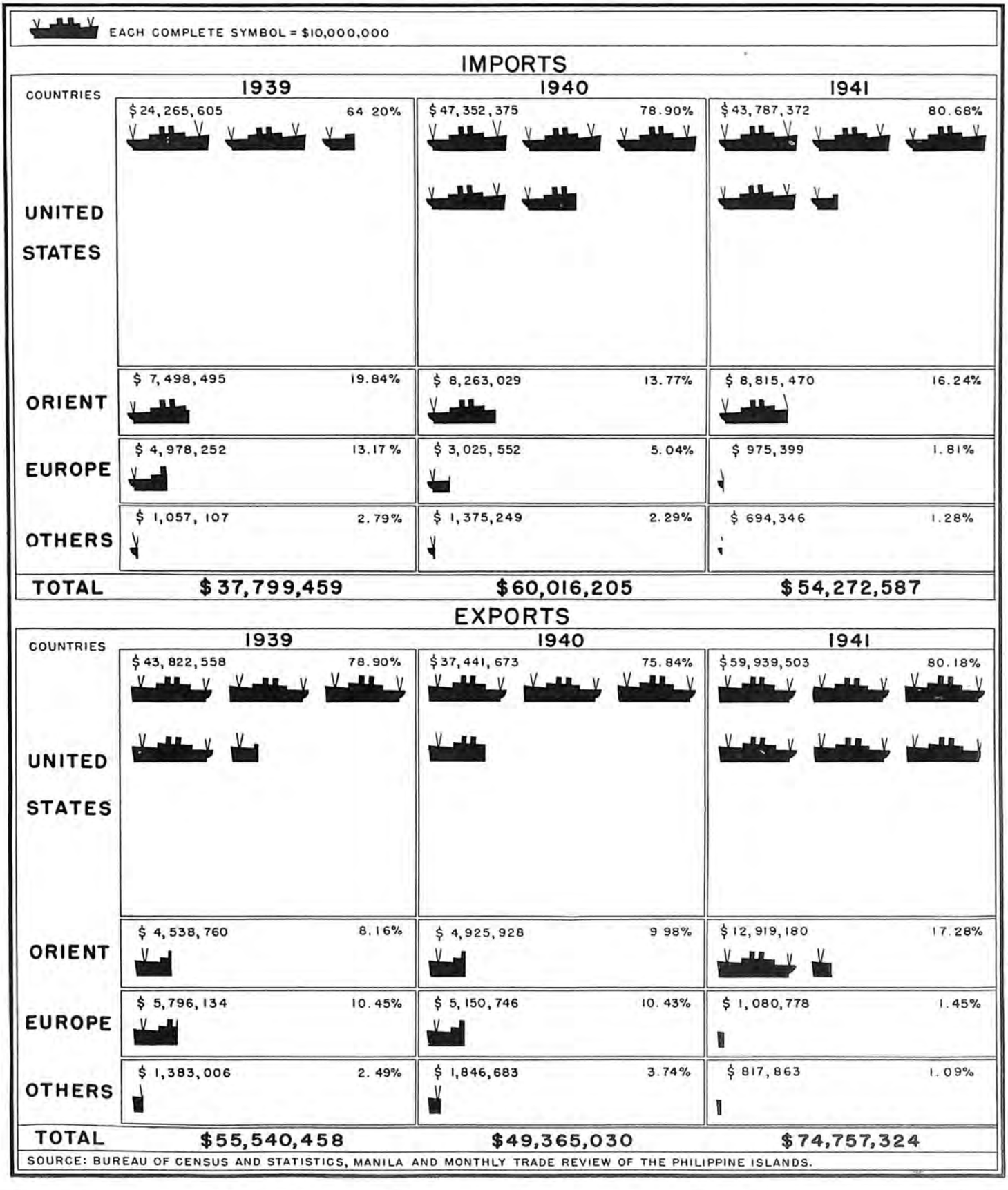
Previous to the appearance of P.A.L., a number of air services had been organized and operated in the Philippines. The first such venture was started in 1931. Operating and financial difficulties, however, resulted in the abandonment of all earlier services.

Philippine Air Lines is a Filipino corporation, with a well-known Filipino businessman, Ramon Fernandez, as president. Manuel Elizalde of Elizalde & Co. is first vice president; John Schultz is second vice president and treasurer. The company is managed by A. Soriano y Cia., with administrative offices at the Soriano Building in the heart of Manila's business section. Traffic and operating offices and workshops are situated at the Nielson Airport, on the outskirts of the capital. ★

The graphic report of Philippine trade on page 23 will be brought up to date for each future issue. Figures are the latest available two weeks before publication.

Total Philippine Commerce for Five Month Period

January-May, 1939-1940-1941



SOURCE: BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS, MANILA AND MONTHLY TRADE REVIEW OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Critical Awakening . . .
IN THE PHILIPPINES

By P. C. Morantte

FOR the past ten years there have been vigorous discussions, in print as well as on the platforms, about Filipino writers and their writings. More broadly, this talk has concerned Philippine literature in general. It is an interesting fact that Filipino writers in English, although a comparatively recent development, have been leading the Tagalog and Spanish writers in their critical attitude toward Filipino life and letters. Nowadays, all are awakening to the fact that literature has a social responsibility and that *belles lettres* do not touch deep enough the native life to insure it progress toward human betterment.

Such writers as Federico Mangahas, editor of the *Herald Mid-Week Magazine*, and Salvador P. Lopez, editor of *The Philippines Herald*, have done much to give social direction to the works of Philippine writers. But literary productions by a great many of their contemporaries, who presume to be modern critics of Filipino life, are motivated too much by social dilettantism to carry genuine conviction and integrity. Consequently, whatever sincerity of purpose they may have in championing the cause of the masses is more often than not nullified by their primary concern for identifying themselves with the intellectual fad of the moment.

On the other hand, we have some critical writings in English that seek merely to catalog our literary progress of the past 15 years or so. The most important of these critical writings are by Jose Garcia Villa (who uses the pen name of Doveglion). He is considered the foremost critic of poetry and short stories in the Philippines today. Before Mr. Villa made his debut as a critic about 1927, literary criticisms had been published sporadically by the late Fernando Maramag, by Carlos P. Romulo (now general manager of the Manila *Herald*), and by Professors Cristino Jamias and Ignacio Manlapaz.

Jose Garcia Villa took up literary criticism with a Messianic passion. Since 1927 he has been devoting a great deal of his time to the task of selecting the best Filipino short stories of the year. Whenever the poetry production warranted the selection, he has nominated the best Filipino poems of the year or of the several years under his purview. Despite his apparent personal bias in judging a piece of writing on the basis of its esthetic value, rather than its utilitarian responsibility, Villa's pontifications on literary works have been largely responsible for waking up the critical faculty in Filipino writers.

Another important critic is Salvador P. Lopez, who differs from Villa in many respects. Villa has esthetic conscience. Lopez has only a liberal faith in art. He is more concerned with social scenes and doctrines than with esthetics. His book of essays on life and letters, *Literature and Society*, which won a Commonwealth Literary Prize last year, was written "in terms of people and of the dignity and the responsibility of human personality and particularly of the artist as a conscious force in the betterment of society." Edgar Snow, a noted American liberal and student of the Far East, characterizes Lopez as a worthy successor of Rizal, Mabini and Aglipay, in the general context of his appeal.

"He does not yet possess the critical faculty of those great leaders of his people", Mr. Snow admits, "but there are signs that he may not lack their courage."

A. E. Litiaco, literary editor of the Manila *Graphic* is also a responsible critic. His most important field, however, is as literary editor of the magazine in which practically all our best short stories of the past few years have been printed.

A well-known Filipino writer, who does not pretend to be a critic but, nevertheless, is one in the sense that his works are definitive of Philippine life, is Manuel E. Arguilla. Unquestionably, he is the foremost short story writer in the Philippines; some of his stories have been accorded special mention by the late Edward J. O'Brien, famous anthologist of short stories. A book of his short stories, "How My Brother Leon Brought Home a Wife," won for Arguilla a Commonwealth Literary Contest prize.

Arguilla's stories are living commentaries. They provide subjects for critical discussions. He has no doctrinal preoccupations; he seeks only to portray life in a framework that is at once realistic and artistic. His characters open up fresh insights for more active critics and they remain for them a source of analysis. From his tales the critics, no less than the readers, learn the essence of native life, for his stories are also valid explanations of the contemporary scene.

Literary criticism is already beginning to engage the interest of other Filipino writers. Arturo B. Rotor, author of the book, "The Wound and the Scar" (Philippine Book Guild), I. V. Mallari, Jose M. Hernandez and Teodoro Agoncillo are in this group.

Despite this progress, Filipino criticism is still too inhibited to enjoy a respectable standard of quality. It suffers from too much moralism. It is obsessed with counterfeit intellectualism. Its standard stresses ethical truths, always inferring that a work of art cannot exist unless it conforms to conventional ideals. It lacks human personality and betrays sadly a want of both philosophy and discipline in esthetic thinking.

Allegorically speaking, literary criticism in the Philippines is about ready for its birth. Filipino writers in English, Tagalog and Spanish are attending to its parturition with something like parental concern. Just now, however, there is much speculation as to what kind of animal the thing will be when it is eventually born. But more important than the thrill of expectancy is the knowledge that in due time it will take a definite place in Philippine life and letters. ★



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